

Rosanna C. Vázquez
Attorney at Law

Digitally signed
by Kathryn Ross
Date: 2017.05.23
12:06:45 -04'00'

May 22, 2017
Via email cela@fec.com

Ms. Kathryn Ross
Complaints Examination and Legal Administration

Re: Response by MaryAnn Hendrickson to Ethical Complaint against Soules for U.S. Congress

Ms. Kathryn Ross,

I assume you have received Mary Ann Hendrickson's designation of counsel in her official capacity as Treasurer for Soules for U.S. Congress. She is responding for herself, and not for the Committee, nor Ms. Soules, the Candidate.

With respect to the allegation in the complaint regarding use of the airplane for travel use on November 8, 2016, to attend the "Get out to Vote" rallies, by Ms. Soules, it was an act that Ms. Hendrickson was not advised about prior to the fact nor after the fact, and nor did she attend. She heard discussion about the possible use of an airplane on Election Day, but was not involved in planning or execution of the trip.

As background, Ms. Hendrickson was named Treasurer of the Campaign for Ms. Soules and the relationship was amicable and communication was open. As time went on, Ms. Hendrickson became more of Treasurer in name only and others usurped her duties in the campaign. Information was not freely given to her nor was she aware of many of the plans for the campaign, nor how the money was being spent until after the fact. The breakdown in communication she believed to be grounded in the tempo of the campaign, and not some willful decision to limit the information provided. She reported all that she was aware of, and what was told to her by the members of the campaign, namely Merrie Lee Soules and Laura Garcia, Campaign Manager. She was not involved in the use of the plane and as such was not in a position to report such matters through the reporting requirements nor to advise the FEC to intervene and advise on such a matter.

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Rosanna C. Vázquez
Attorney at Law

Had she known, it would have been reported. It is evident through the pictures that Ms. Soules is with the airplane, moreover it is equally evident that Ms. Hendrickson is not seen in the pictures. Furthermore, despite calls to Ms. Soules regarding this Complaint by myself as Ms. Hendrickson's legal counsel, Ms. Soules has failed to respond and or contact us.

Without knowledge of the facts, Ms. Hendrickson cannot be charged with intent to hide facts to the FEC nor the people of the Congressional District. Without personal knowledge her acts cannot be considered willful. With the lack of communication within the campaign and the usurpation of her duties by campaign members, namely Laura Garcia and Andrew Moralez, she cannot be held responsible to report something she was not advised on prior to nor after the fact.

Ms. Hendrickson served her country for 26 years in the Navy. She made a career of the military, retiring ten years ago. She believed working on this campaign was a way she could continue her civic duty to her country. She has never been charged nor found guilty of any crimes nor of any ethical violations. Her career in the military was stellar and without blemish. No motive to hide facts and contributions can be attributed to her, moreover this allegation appears more as an honest mistake which can be remedied by reporting amended 2016 Post Election Report of Receipts and Disbursements, which Ms. Hendrickson would gladly provide if and when such information is provided to her by Former Candidate Merrie Lee Soules.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call. Or if you require additional information or documentation please don't hesitate to call myself at 505-670-8484.

Most sincerely,


Rosanna C. Vazquez

cc: client



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION
999 E Street, NW
Washington, DC 20463

Digitally signed
by Kathryn Ross
Date:
2017.05.23
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STATEMENT OF DESIGNATION OF COUNSEL

Provide one form for each Respondent/Witness

EMAIL: cela@fec.gov FAX: 202-219-3923

MUR # **7217**

Name of Counsel: Rosanna Vazquez

Firm: Law Office of Rosanna C. Vazquez

Address: P.O. Box 2435

Santa Fe, NM 87505

Telephone: 505-670-8484/877-879-2434

Fax: _____

E-mail: rosanna@rvazquezlaw.com

The above-named individual and/or firm is hereby designated as my counsel and is authorized to receive any notifications and other communications from the Commission and to act on my behalf before the Commission.

5/22/2017

Date

Signature (Respondent/Agent)

Treasurer

Title

RESPONDENT: Soules for U.S. Congress, Mary Ann Hendrickson-Treasurer
(Committee Name/ Company Name/Individual Named in Notification Letter)

Mailing Address: _____
(Please Print)

Las Cruces, NM 88011

Telephone (H): _____ (W): _____

E-mail: _____

This form relates to a Federal Election Commission matter that is subject to the confidentiality provisions of 52 U.S.C. § 30109(a)(12)(A). This section prohibits making public any notification or investigation conducted by the Federal Election Commission without the express written consent of the person under investigation.